BLM AZ Communications Sites Solar Power Improvements

Need

The Southwest US Border State Radio Communications Sites on the Phoenix, Colorado River, and Gila Districts are managed by the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Arizona State Office. These sites are typically remote and accessed by steep, winding, natural surface roads in mountainous terrain. The BLM Arizona Communications Sites Solar Power Improvements project will provide solar power systems for five communications sites: Smith, White Tanks, Oatman, Hayden, and Guthrie. The initial construction schedule estimate begins March 2010, and ends June 2010.

Some areas of the sites will be restricted during construction. However, radio service interruptions will not occur during installation. Minimal electrical service interruptions is anticipated at project completion for system start up and testing routines.



Recovery Act Funding

Information about the funding allocated for this BLM-Arizona American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) project will be released after the contract has been awarded. The solar projects at Smith and White Tanks will be completed with one construction contract, and the solar projects at Oatman and Guthrie will each be completed with one construction contract. The solar project at Hayden will be included with the construction contract for that site.

Benefits

This project promotes the use of a renewable energy source at federal administrative sites and enhances continuity of service. These five communications sites provide radio coverage required for law enforcement, initial-attack fire, and emergency first-aid and enable logistics for daily coordination of field personnel.



More Information

For more information about this BLM ARRA project, contact Art Goldberg, at 602-417-9227 or BLM-Arizona ARRA Coordinator, at 602-417-9641.